Transit Security Grant Program FY 2013
Questions from Industry Partners received
As of June 5, 2013

FY 2013 Application Process

Q. Does the Standard Form (SF) 424 require information on the number of projects and/or the total dollar amount requested?

A. Only the total dollar amount requested is required for the SF 424 submission.

Q. What is/will be the effective date for the fiscal year (FY) 2013 TSGP award?

A. FY 2013 funds will be effective on the date the grantee accepts the award. FY 2013 funds will expire September 30, 2015.

Q. For a capital project which scored higher in a previous fiscal year, how would the sustainment of this project now fare considering the scoring criteria has changed?

A. Please provide a detailed justification so the review panel has enough information to determine the project's value, and rank it as high as possible with consideration given to the Funding Priority Areas in FY 2013.

Q. Are regional projects scored differently?

A. The National Review Panel is authorized to award up to two additional points for projects with a clear indication of regional collaboration.

Q. Can a vendor estimate for some portion of a proposed project, such as equipment or installation costs, be included with a project submission? The project has not gone through procurement yet, so the final cost proposals could vary; will the information be kept confidential?

A. Yes, agencies are welcome to submit supporting documents to help demonstrate the basis for cost estimates, or other relevant project details. It is important with any supporting documents that they are summarized and/or referenced in the Investment Justification (IJ) to provide context for the review panel. As the applications are considered SSI, any details of the projects will be treated in accordance with appropriate SSI handling procedures.

Allowability

Q. Can Anti-Terrorism Teams (ATTs) be utilized for "non-surge" periods/activities? Is it allowable to utilize more than one team at the same location?

A. ATTs can be used for visible, unpredictable deterrence patrols during "normal" operations, and not just during periods of heightened alert. The ATTs can and should be utilized for "unpredictable" deterrence, to disrupt potential surveillance and attack planning. However, patrols should still be scheduled based on risk (e.g., during rush hour at busy stations). And

more than one ATT can be used at the same location, as some stations are quite large and may need more coverage than others.

Q. Can overtime be utilized to support surge activities/patrols for a transit police force, or must Operational Package (OPack) teams perform these patrols?

A. Surge activities on overtime can be requested for transit police force officers, and do not have to be just for OPack teams.

Q. Is watercraft allowable equipment with Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) funds?

A. Response watercraft is technically allowable equipment under the FY 2013 TSGP. However, a request for such equipment would likely be considered a lower-security priority project based on the funding priorities and scoring methodology outlined in the FOA.

Q. Is it allowable to charge overtime incurred by police officers to distribute awareness materials in support of public outreach?

A. No, this would not be an allowable cost under TGSP. The funding guidelines in Appendix C of the FY 2013 TSGP FOA indicate that allowable overtime costs include: directed patrols, canine team/mobile screening and anti-terrorism patrols.

Q. In order to complete PATRIOT training for a large number of employees is it possible to reallocate funds from training to overtime to provide backfill during training?

A. A proposal to reallocate funds from training to overtime should be submitted as a reprogramming request, and will require review by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). In general, overtime and backfill costs related to employees attending training are allowable expenses.

Q. Under which funding priority category would contracted Intel Analysts be considered?

A. In general, Intel analysts could be considered Priority C, but the review panel could opt to place the project in a lower priority based on the specifics of the project. Specifics could include whether this is a request for new analysts, or sustainment of existing support; and if sustainment, whether the analyst(s) were part of an OPack funded in FY2007. Additional consideration would be given for the type of work being performed.

Q. What would be the funding priority for CCTV maintenance?

A. The funding priority would depend on what the CCTV is used for. The National Review Panel can score the project as high as the original project scored, so CCTV used to monitor a Top Transit Asset List (TTAL) station could be awarded a higher funding priority than CCTV on buses. If a maintenance agreement is purchased at the time the equipment is purchased, the maintenance agreement can exceed the Period of Performance (POP) of that award. However, if a maintenance agreement is purchased for a piece of equipment bought with prior fiscal year funds, this agreement cannot exceed the POP for the award under which it is funded.